

people of her race to jobs as janitors and laborers.

Louise's voice and dynamic personality were ever-present in seventy years of struggles over school desegregation and dozens of other disputes involving employment discrimination and demands for equal rights for all citizens. At a time when black citizens were denied admittance to most of the county's hospitals, she ignored the skepticism of her fellow African-Americans and started the fight that resulted in the desegregation of Palm Beach County's major medical facilities. When her grandchildren wanted to go to the beach during a time period when beaches were restricted to whites, Louise took her grandchildren anyway. Although she was arrested for her actions, Louise prevailed, and the beaches were opened to all citizens.

It was Louise Buie who forced the abolition of the Palm Beach County school district's "all white" textbooks that excluded any mention of the history and contributions of African-Americans in our nation. She was also at the forefront of the movement that brought courses in black history to the curriculum of Palm Beach County schools. As time went by, more and more of the barriers to full participation in our society were broken down by the efforts of this amazing woman.

Mr. Speaker, there is a song that is often chanted at protest marches and rallies. It begins, "Ain't gonna let nobody turn us around." That sums up the life of Louise Buie. No one ever turned her around.

Although Louise was best known and most often honored for her civil rights work, she didn't confine herself to battles for the betterment of the lives of black citizens. Anywhere there was injustice, Louise could be counted on to speak out and assist those whose rights were infringed upon. She became known as the little lady with the big heart.

Her lifetime of fighting against injustice won her innumerable friends and admirers among people of all races and every economic stratum, including myself. Opponents of segregation came to recognize her as a formidable adversary and eventually realized the futility of holding to their outdated views. Elected officials and other powerful people respected her opinions and welcomed her input and wise counsel.

I knew "Mrs. L.E. Buie," as she called herself, for a very long time. I cannot possibly calculate the immense value of all that I learned from her. As with so many other people she met in her lifetime, she was an enormous influence on me. I know how proud she was of my election to Congress, seeing that victory as validation of her decades-long effort to raise African-Americans to a level equal to that of white citizens. Nevertheless, we both knew, and I still know, that America has a long way to go.

Two years ago, in an effort to convince a local town to adopt the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday for its citizens, Louise Buie, at age 87, walked a mile with other marchers and stood on the steps of the town hall through more than an hour of speeches. When one of my long-time staff members, who had been sitting down, later commented on her stamina, she replied, "I'm used to standing." Until a few weeks before her death, Louise Buie was still fighting battles and collecting awards. In recognition of the many lives she touched and the huge impact that she had on the people of

Palm Beach County, the Urban League building in West Palm Beach is co-named for her.

Mr. Speaker, there will never be another human being like Louise Elizabeth Buie. Her impact will be felt for generations to come. She opened many doors, often with only the strength of her personality. Because of her work, innumerable African-Americans and people of all races have walked through those doors, and we are extremely grateful for the phenomenal person that she was. Her memory will live with me always.

#### INTENT AND OBJECTIVES OF AMENDMENT TO PRESIDENTIAL RECORDINGS AND MATERIALS PRESERVATION ACT OF 1974

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Mr. DAVIS and myself, I would like to submit the following letters for the RECORD. They provide background on the intent and objectives of the amendment to the Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act of 1974.

RICHARD NIXON LIBRARY  
AND BIRTHPLACE FOUNDATION,  
*November 21, 2003.*

Hon. TOM DAVIS,  
Hon. HENRY A. WAXMAN,  
*Committee on Government Reform, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES DAVIS AND WAXMAN: I would like to express our appreciation for your efforts to amend the Presidential Recordings and Materials Act to remove the requirement that the Presidential records of the Nixon Administration be housed in Washington, D.C. It has been more than 29 years since President Nixon left office. Bringing the Nixon Library into the federal system under the terms of the Presidential Libraries Act and at this time is clearly in the public interest.

The public interest is best served by the unfettered access for historians and the general public to the records of the Nixon Administration. We agree that current regulations on public access will continue to govern public access to these records in the future; that the records remain the property of the United States; and that the Archivist will be responsible for access to the documents at the Nixon Library. It is our understanding that papers and tapes that have been processed may be transferred to the Nixon Presidential Library once an agreement has been reached between the Nixon Foundation and the Archives, but that those records that have yet to be processed shall continue to be reviewed in a timely fashion at College Park, Maryland. Of course, the ongoing review of records at College Park should not delay the transfer to California of records that have already been processed.

The Nixon Foundation is eager to complete discussions with the Archivist in a timely fashion and looks forward to that opportunity.

Sincerely,

JOHN H. TAYLOR.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
*Washington, DC, November 20, 2003.*

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Congressman Waxman and I seek to memorialize the amendment to

the Presidential Recordings and Materials Act of 1974 included in the Transportation and Treasury Appropriations bill. The measure the Congress is adopting today will make clear that the Presidential Papers of Richard Nixon are eligible for transfer to the Nixon Presidential Library. Under the 1974 Act, it has not been legal to transfer these papers. The purpose of the provision we are enacting today is to move forward the process whereby the Archivist and the directors of the Nixon Library in Yorba Linda, California, will conclude an agreement on the terms of this transfer.

The provision enacted today makes clear that any agreement between the Archivist and the Nixon Library to bring the Nixon Library into the federal Presidential library system shall be, as has been the case with all other Presidential libraries, subject to the terms of the Presidential Library Act. Those records will continue to be owned by the United States and administered by the National Archives. The Archivist will not transfer any documents to California until he certifies to Congress that he has determined that there is a suitable archival facility to house those documents.

Once the Archivist agrees to accept the Nixon Library into the Presidential Library System and has notified Congress, employees of the National Archives will staff the Library, and the Archivist will be responsible for access to documents at the Library. This measure makes clear the public interest in unfettered access for historians and the general public to the records of the Nixon Presidency.

The National Archives is responsible for reviewing the recordings and materials from the Nixon Administration. This is a complicated task of looking at each document and determining if the release of that document would invade someone's privacy or endanger national security. There are concerns that transferring these materials to California would disrupt the processing of them, delaying their public release. This bill will not affect the processing of the records. Papers and tapes that have been processed may be transferred to the Nixon Presidential Library once an agreement has been reached between the Library and NARA. Those records that have yet to be processed shall continue to be reviewed in a timely fashion at College Park, MD. At the same time, that review should not in any way delay the transfer of processed records to California.

Sincerely,

TOM DAVIS,  
*Chairman, Committee on Government Reform.*

HENRY A. WAXMAN,  
*Ranking Member, Minority Committee on Government Reform.*

#### A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MARGARET O'NEILL FOR HER YEARS OF DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay special tribute to an invaluable public servant. Margaret O'Neill, the Occupational Health Nurse, will retire from her long career of public service on January 2, 2004.